United Nations A/CONF.217/3

General Assembly

Distr.: General
25 July 2012

Original: English

United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty
New York, 2-27 July 2012
Agenda item 9
Credentials of representatives to the Conference

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chair: Ambassador Pablo Antonio Thalassinós (Panama)

1. Rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty provides that:

> A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its most recent session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

2. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 3 July 2012, the Conference, in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee having the same composition as that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its sixty-sixth session, namely, China, Costa Rica, Egypt, Italy, Maldives, Panama, Russian Federation, Senegal and United States of America.

3. The Credentials Committee held one meeting, on 25 July 2012.

4. Ambassador Pablo Antonio Thalassinós, Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations, was unanimously elected Chair.

5. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General of the Conference dated 25 July 2012 on the credentials of representatives of Member States participating in the Conference. The Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs of the United Nations made a statement relating to the memorandum, in which, inter alia, he updated the memorandum to indicate credentials and communications received subsequent to its preparation.

6. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum and in the statement relating thereto, formal credentials of representatives to the Conference, in the form required by rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, have been submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference by the following 97 Member States, in respect of their representatives to the Conference: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina,

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Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

7. As noted in paragraph 2 of the memorandum and in the statement relating thereto, information concerning the appointment of their representatives to the Conference has been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference, by means of a cable or a telefax from the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs, or by means of a letter or note verbale from the Mission concerned, by the following 73 Member States: Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte D'Ivoire, Dominica, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Papa New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen.

8. As noted in paragraph 3 of the memorandum, of the Member States not already mentioned in paragraphs 1 or 2 of the memorandum, the following 23 Member States had not, as of the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee, communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference any information regarding its representatives: Andorra, Bhutan, Central African Republic, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Gambia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu and Uzbekistan.

9. The Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations stated that Egypt registers that the acceptance of the credentials of Israel signed in Jerusalem does not in any way imply Egypt's or the United Nations recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

10. The Committee decided to accept the credentials of the representatives of all Member States listed in paragraphs 6 and 7 and the statement relating thereto, on the understanding that formal credentials for representatives of the Member States

referred to in paragraph 7 of the present report would be communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference as soon as possible.

11. The Committee adopted the following draft resolution without a vote:

"*The Credentials Committee*,

Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty,

Accepts the credentials of the representatives of the Member States referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Secretary-General's memorandum."

12. The Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the Conference the adoption of the draft resolution (see para. 14 below).

13. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the Conference.

Recommendation of the Credentials Committee

14. The Credentials Committee recommends to the Conference the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Credentials of representatives to the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty

The United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

United Nations A/CONF.217/4

General Assembly

Distr.: General
1 August 2012

Original: English

United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty
New York, 2-27 July 2012

Report of the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 64/48 of 23 December 2009, the General Assembly decided to convene a United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty to meet for four consecutive weeks in 2012 to elaborate a legally binding instrument on the highest possible common international standards for the transfer of conventional arms.

II. Organizational matters and proceedings of the Conference

A. Opening and duration of the Conference

2. The United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty was convened at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 2 to 27 July 2012. The Conference was opened and addressed on 3 July 2012 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. At the same meeting, Roberto García Moritán (Argentina) was elected President of the Conference. Daniël Prins of the Office for Disarmament Affairs served as Secretary-General of the Conference. The Conference held plenary meetings and informal meetings. The list of participants is contained in document A/CONF.217/INF/1.

B. Rules of procedure

3. At its 1st meeting, on 3 July, the Conference adopted its rules of procedure (A/CONF.217/L.1).

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C. Agenda

4. Also at the 1st meeting, on 3 July, the Conference adopted the agenda (A/CONF.217/L.2) as follows:

1. Opening of the Conference by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
2. Election of the President.
3. Statement by the President.
4. Address by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
5. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
6. Adoption of the agenda.
7. Election of officers other than the President.
8. Confirmation of the Secretary-General of the Conference.
9. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
10. General exchange of views.
11. Statements by:
   (a) Representatives of intergovernmental organizations;
   (b) Representatives of non-governmental organizations.
12. Organization of work.
13. Submission of the report of the Preparatory Committee by the Chair of the Preparatory Committee.
14. Reports of the Main Committees.
15. Consideration and adoption of the final documents of the Conference.
16. Other matters.
17. Adoption of the report of the Conference to the General Assembly.

D. Officers

5. The composition of the Bureau of the Conference was as follows:

President:

Roberto García Moritán (Argentina)

Vice-Presidents:

Australia
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Egypt
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Japan
Kenya
Mexico
Netherlands
Nigeria
Republic of Korea
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Switzerland
Ukraine

E. Documentation

6. The documents of the Conference are listed in the annex to the present report.

III. Credentials

7. Pursuant to rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the Conference (A/CONF.217/L.1), according to which the composition of the Credentials Committee shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session, the Conference appointed China, Costa Rica, Egypt, Italy, Maldives, Panama, the Russian Federation, Senegal and the United States of America as members of its Credentials Committee.

8. At its 17th meeting, on 27 July, the Conference adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Credentials Committee in paragraph 14 of its report (A/CONF.217/3), thereby approving the report of the Credentials Committee. In that report, the Committee had accepted the credentials of the representatives of Member States to the Conference.

IV. Report of the Conference to the General Assembly

9. At its 6th meeting, on 9 July, on the proposal of the President, the Conference approved its provisional programme of work for two weeks, from 9 to 20 July, by which it established two main committees, namely Main Committee 1, chaired by Bouchaib El oumni (Morocco), and Main Committee 2, chaired by Paul van den Ijssel (Netherlands), to conduct negotiations on the elements of the arms trade treaty.

10. The Conference also held informal meetings from 6 to 27 July 2012.

11. At its 15th meeting, on 26 July, the President submitted, under his own responsibility and without prejudice to the position of any delegation, the text of a draft arms trade treaty contained in document A/CONF.217/CRP.1.

12. At its 17th meeting, on 27 July, the Conference adopted the present report by consensus.

Annex

Documentation

The Conference had before it the following documents:

A/CONF.217/1	Report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty
A/CONF.217/2 and Add.1	Compilation of views on the elements of an arms trade treaty
A/CONF.217/3	Report of the Credentials Committee
A/CONF.217/L.1	Provisional rules of procedure of the Conference
A/CONF.217/L.2	Draft provisional agenda of the Conference
A/CONF.217/CRP.1	Draft text of the arms trade treaty submitted by the President
A/CONF.217/CRP.2	Draft report of the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty
A/CONF.217/INF/1	List of participants